we can make our presence felt in the external market which has been created after a great deal of effort and exercise.

DR. BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I agree with the hon. Member. This is the strategy that we should maintain in the international market. The credibility of our products can be maintained only on the basis of continuous supply and other things. In the case of milk and milk powder, as I mentioned earlier, the Animal Husbandry Department is fixing the criteria. As regards import, it is under OGL. Earlier we were getting 75,000 tonnes of milk powder as donation from other countries. Now we have stopped that. Now we will consult the Animal Husbandry Department and the Dairy Department and ask them if they can give us a continuous quota. We will be happy if we can maintain a good reputation in the market.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Inadequate Godown Space for RPDS

*202. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the godowns space available does not match with the magnitude of the revamped PDS;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to increase the godowns capacity;

(c) whether it is a fact that the resources have not been properly distributed so that adequate storage capacity is created; and

(d) if so, the plan and programme of Government in this area?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) and (b) The godown capacity with the Food Corporation of India (FCI), Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC), State Warehousing Corporations (SWC) and State Civil Supplies Corporations (SCSC) is adequate for implementing the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS).

(c) and (d) In order to help the State Governments to augment the storage capacity, Government is extending financial assistance for construction of small godowns in the far-flung, hilly, remote and inaccessible areas. This assistance is given to States as loan and subsidy on 50:50 basis. An amount of Rs. 12.5 crores has been provided under the scheme for the financial year 1997-98, as against the current financial year's allocation of Rs. 7.55 crores.

Revival of Hindustan Cables Limited

*206. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a package of assistance for Hindustan Cables Limited and a strategy for its future was considered by Government;

(b) if so, whether Government have instructed the Department of Telecommunications and Department of Heavy Industry to bilaterally work out the ways and means to see how the operations of the Company could be sustained till its revival; and

(c) if so, the details of arrangement decided between the Department of Telecommunications and Department of Heavy Industry?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Government considered a package of assistance to Hindustan Cables Limited (HCL) and strategy for its future and decided that Department of

Telecommunications and HCL may bilaterally work out the ways and means to see how the operations of the latter may be sustained for the time being.

(c) In pursuance of the above decision, Department of Telecommunications released an additional order alongwith 50% advance for supplies during January to March, 1997. Department of Heavy Industry has further sought fresh order from Department of Telecommunications for HCL on the same lines for the year 1997-98 also.

CBI Inquiry Against Marketing Managers of STC.

*207. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an enquiry had been conducted by CBI or any other investigating agency against Marketing Managers of STC;

(b) if so, the details of such enquiry together with the amount involved in the racket detected in this regard;

(c) whether no action has been taken on the said report by the Chairman; and

(d) if so, the reasons for not taking any action thereon together with the names of the guilty officers *viz.* Marketing Managers, Branch Managers and Directors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULI RAMAIAH): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Status of the cases covered under CBI enquiry or otherwise during 1995-96 and 1996-97 as intimated by STC are given in the enclosed statement (*See* below). The cases reflected in the enclosed Annexure are at various stages of investigation/ enquiry.

Statement

Sl. No.	Year	Subject	Status Position
1.	1995-96	Import of Russian Newsprint by STC	On the basis of an internal inquiry into the allegations against STC managers in Russian newsprint import deal, CVC advised the CBI to take up the investigation in the matter. With the concurrence of the MOC, a criminal case was registered on 5.1.96. In their latest progress report dated 9.1.1997, CBI have intimated that the investigation is at a crucial stage. Consequent upon registration of the case, STC management placed under suspension accused Managers namely Shri B.D. Majumdar, Chief Marketing Manager, Shri R.L. Batra, Marketing Manager, and Shri S.N. Basu Roychoudhury, Marketing Manager, Shri Gopal Chaturvedi, Director (Finance) was allowed to proceed on leave on 10.1.96 but resumed his duty on 16.4.96. He is presently on leave with effect from